



Michael Beimer, City Administrator
Mark Winder, Chief of Police
Dan Boggs, P.E., City Engineer

Jim Moore, Mayor

Council:

Jamie Hampton
Marianne Taylor
Francesca Thompson
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Eric Roudabush

Parks and Recreation Department
Directors Report
December 15 2014 – January 15 2015

Parks

- Park and Rec Board would like to officially name the Sauter Park area "Sauter Park" and include signage in one of the future years of park signage.
- Park and Rec Board would also like to name the stretch of green space that runs along trail from Elliott Park to Nature Park. They would like to recognize this area as Hahn Creek Greenway. A definition and description of a greenway is included with this report.
- Questionnaire....thank you for the responses to the five questions. We will analyze the input and include where appropriate in the Master Parks Plan.
- Three park benches have arrived. Public Works staff will construct these and install when weather cooperates. Thank you to the Wellso Foundation for their contribution towards these new park benches.
- Created and distributed Master Schedule for summer ball fields for Competitive Baseball / Softball coaches/teams.
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Sports

- 3rd-6th Grade Boys Basketball...currently we have three teams in the boys basketball league with Solon and Lisbon. One team for each grade level (3rd, 4th, and 5th-6th combined). Last year we had two teams in each age division. We attribute the lower numbers due to more competitive teams forming at the younger ages for basketball.
- 1st - 2nd Grade Boys Basketball...we currently have 30 kids registered. We are down about 6 kids from last year, but we could still have late registrations trickle in.
- Youth Wrestling. We currently have 24 kids registered for this program for 4, 5, and 6 yr olds. We are down 3 kids, but still taking registrations.

Pool

- V&K are waiting until weather permits to have an expert test our pumps.



**Mount
Vernon**
IOWA

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Misc

- Holiday Open Gyms.....Hosted three days of open gym on Dec 26 (31 participants), Dec 29 (36 participants) and Dec 30 (47 participants). You can see how valuable these opportunities are.
- Will be participating in School District's Citizen Committee / First Fifty
- Chalk the Walk meetings have started. This will a very special CTW as it will be the 10 year anniversary of the event.



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GREENWAY

Terminology



The American author Charles Little in his 1990 book, *Greenways for America*^[1] defines a greenway as

+ a linear open space established along either a natural corridor, such as a riverfront, stream valley, or ridgeline, or overland along a railroad right-of-way converted to recreational use, a canal, scenic road or other route. It is a natural or landscaped course for pedestrian or bicycle passage; an open-space connector linking parks, nature reserves, cultural features, or historic sites with each other and with populated areas; locally certain strip or linear parks designated as parkway or greenbelt.^[2]

The term *greenway* comes from the *green* in green belt and the *way* in parkway, implying a recreational or pedestrian use rather than a typical street corridor, as well as an emphasis on introducing or maintaining vegetation, in a location where such vegetation is otherwise lacking. Some greenways include community gardens as well as typical park-style landscaping of trees and shrubs. They also tend to have a mostly contiguous pathway. Greenways resemble linear parks, but the latter are only found in an urban and suburban environment.

Though a wild life corridors are also a greenways, because they have conservation as their primary purpose, they are not necessarily managed as parks for recreational use, and may not include facilities such as public trails.

Tom Turner analyzed greenways in London, looking for common patterns among successful examples. He was inspired by the pattern language technique of architect Christopher Alexander. Turner concluded there are seven types, or 'patterns', of greenway which he named: parkway, blueway, paveway, glazeway, skyway, ecoway and cycleway.^[3]



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The [European Greenways Association](#) defines it as "communication routes reserved exclusively for non-motorised journeys, developed in an integrated manner which enhances both the environment and quality of life of the surrounding area. These routes should meet satisfactory standards of width, gradient and surface condition to ensure that they are both user-friendly and low-risk for users of all abilities." (Lille Declaration, European Greenways Association, 12 September 2000).

Characteristics



Railway Platforms on [Parkland Walk](#), [North London](#), England

Charles Little, describes five general types of greenways:^[7]

- Urban riverside (or other water body) greenways, usually created as part of (or instead of) a redevelopment program along neglected, often run-down, city waterfronts.
- Recreational greenways, featuring paths and trails of various kinds, often relatively long distance, based on natural corridors as well as canals, abandoned rail beds, and public rights-of-way.
- Ecologically significant natural corridors, usually along rivers and streams and less often ridgelines, to provide for wildlife migration and species interchange, nature study and hiking.
- Scenic and Historic routes, usually along a road, highway or waterway, the most representative of them making an effort to provide pedestrian access along the route or at least places to alight from the car.
- Comprehensive greenway systems or networks, usually based on natural landforms such as valleys or ridges but sometimes simply an opportunistic assemblage of greenways and open spaces of various kinds to create an alternative municipal or regional green infrastructure.



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Greenways are vegetated, linear, and multi-purpose. They incorporate a footpath or bikeway within a linear park. In urban design they are a component of planning for bicycle commuting and walkability.

Greenways are found in rural areas as well as urban. Corridors redeveloped as greenways often travel through both city and country, connecting them together. Even in rural areas greenways serve the purpose of providing residents access to open land managed as parks, as contrasted with land that is vegetated but inappropriate for public use, such as agricultural land. Where the historic rural road network has been enlarged and redesigned to favor highspeed automobile travel, greenways provide an alternative for people who are elderly, young, less mobile, or seeking a reflective pace.^{[8][9]}

Greenways are a global phenomenon. However, most examples are in Europe and North America.